

CITY CONNECTION

MORGAN HILL NEWS



WWW.MORGANHILL.CA.GOV

A Publication of The City of Morgan Hill

Summer 2010

FRIENDLY INN

In 2007, the Morgan Hill City Council established a policy regarding the City-owned Friendly Inn building at 17666 Crest Avenue - "The purpose of the Friendly Inn is to enhance the quality of community life. It is the City's intent to provide subsidized space at the facility for grassroots, non-profit organizations that strive to meet an identifiable, social service, community need." The City Council anticipated partnering with organizations that recognize the value in leveraging resources and reducing duplication of services.

The re-opening of the Friendly Inn, after a year-long renovation and with the addition of five (5) non-profits, firmly establishes the policy of providing space for non-profit organizations to serve the Morgan Hill community and continues the legacy that began in the 1930's with the first Friendly Inn, located at the corner of Monterey Road and Main Street, as a "friendly place" for the community to gather.



The current building was built in 1963 and has served the community as a meeting place, temporary Council Chambers until the current City Hall was completed in the early 70's, was the first home to the City's Recreation Department, and most recently, was the home of the Mt. Madonna YMCA and the American Legion, Morgan Hill Post 44.

The \$2.4 million project, funded by the Morgan Hill Redevelopment Agency, included the demolition of the old Senior Center located on the site and the total renovation of the remaining 7,000 square foot building that housed the YMCA and American Legion. The renovation transformed the building into a facility that includes some of the most current "Green" building standards and meets LEED Gold standards. Weston Miles Architects and Kent Construction partnered with the City to design and build a facility that will continue to serve the Morgan Hill community.

The concept of a multi-tenant non-profit center is a new one and unique to South County. The Center provides Morgan Hill residents with an opportunity to visit compatible service organizations in one location and provides tenant non-profits with the opportunity to lease subsidized office space in Morgan Hill and work with other service providers.

Whats Inside:

Friendly Inn Update • Major Construction 101 & Tennant
Third Street Promenade Update • Local Protection Measure
BMR Units Available • Down Payment Solutions
City Environmental Programs on the Internet
City Beautification Day • Carbon Diet Club
Bay Friendly Gardening • City Reservoirs *The Greening Alternative*
Join the Morgan Hill Police Explorer Post
Community Emergency Response Team

cont. on page 62



City of Morgan Hill
17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill
408-779-7271

CITY ELECTED OFFICIALS

Mayor Steve Tate	779-7259
Councilmember Marby Lee	779-7259
Councilmember Larry Carr	779-7259
Councilmember Marilyn Librers	779-7259
Mayor Pro Tempore Greg Sellers	779-7259
City Clerk Irma Torrez	779-7259
City Treasurer Michael Roorda	778-3653

CITY EXECUTIVE STAFF

City Manager J. Edward Tewes
City Attorney Danny Wan
Assistant to the City Manager/ Human Resources Director Brian Stott
Business Assistance/Housing Services Director Garrett Toy
Interim Community Development Director Steve Piasecki
Finance Director Kevin Ripper
Police Chief Bruce Cumming
Public Works Director Jim Ashcraft
Recreation and Community Services Director Steve Rymer

CONTACTING YOUR CITY

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8AM to 5PM	
Address: City Hall, 17555 Peak Avenue, Morgan Hill, CA 95037	
Animal Control	776-7300
Aquatics Center	782-2134
Building	778-6480
Business Assistance and Housing Services	778-6480
Centennial Recreation Center	782-2128
City Clerk	779-7259
City Manager	779-7271
Community and Cultural Center	782-0008
Emergency Services/Disaster Preparedness	776-7310
Environmental Programs	778-6480
Finance	779-7237
Fire Department (County Fire)	378-4010
Graffiti Hotline	776-8985
Illegal Dumping Hotline	776-7337
Job Hotline	779-7276
Planning: Land Use/Zoning	778-6480
Police Administration	776-7315
Public Works	776-7337
Water	779-7221
City Hall Fax Number	779-3117

City Website: www.morganhill.ca.gov

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Questions or comments about City Connection are welcome. Contact the editor Brian Stott at 779-7271 or brian.stott@morganhill.ca.gov. City Connection is published by the City of Morgan Hill.

MAJOR CONSTRUCTION WORK FOR INTERCHANGE AT HWY 101 & TENNANT AVENUE

Construction has started on this interchange at Tennant Avenue and Highway 101, a project which will improve traffic circulation in that area as well as provide some benefit during daily commute hours. Work commenced early in February, with initial “mobilization,” i.e., the set-up of trailers, equipment, barriers, and other construction support activity, and actual construction activity began shortly thereafter.

“The project work includes widening the Tennant Avenue overpass to four lanes over Highway 101, construction of a loop for eastbound traffic to access Highway 101 to the north, a High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) bypass lane, and ramp-metering infrastructure,” according to project manager Julie Behzad. “This work will bring this interchange to the standards of the Cochrane Road and East Dunne Avenue interchanges.”

Construction work of this nature requires some freeway and street lane closures as construction proceeds. In order to minimize morning commute impacts, any Highway 101 lane closures will be scheduled at non-peak traffic hours, from approximately 8:00 PM in the evening to 5:00 AM in the morning. At least one lane of traffic will be kept open on Highway 101 and Tennant Avenue in each direction at all times, except during an approximate two-week period when the “false work” erection and removal (framing for the bridge) takes place.

At those times when the on or off-ramps at Tennant need to be closed due to construction, the recommended detour will be the next exit north, East Dunne Avenue, which provides easy access to all points normally reached off of the Tennant Avenue Interchange.

This major construction project is fully funded by the Morgan Hill Redevelopment Agency. When completed, the total project cost will be approximately \$11M. Completion of the project will be in the spring of 2011.

A website dedicated solely to this project is available, and will include a detailed description of the project, an overview of the project stages through completion of the work, a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section, and progress pictures during construction. This website will be accessible from a link on the City of Morgan Hill’s homepage at <http://www.morgan-hill.ca.gov>.

Further information about the project can be obtained from project manager Julie Behzad who can be contacted at (408) 778-6480 ext. 230, and also by email at [julie.behzad@morganhill.ca.gov](mailto:behzad@morganhill.ca.gov). If any concerns come up during office after-hours, the contact phone number is 408-779-2101.



CONSTRUCTION COMPLETED

THIRD STREET PROMENADE

Construction is now complete on the Third Street Promenade, resulting in a pedestrian-friendly thoroughfare with wide sidewalks, landscaping, benches, a fountain, and a unique plaza to enjoy sunlit days.

In the years to come, the Third Street Promenade will serve as the community's central meeting place in the downtown, with picturesque restaurants, unique shops, a central plaza area for concerts/performance, and abundant seating for outdoor dining.

Construction began on the project in 2008. "We are very appreciative of the cooperation and patience of the businesses that were affected at each phase of the construction work," says Project Manager Yat Cho. "These businesses worked closely with us to accommodate the construction activity and to work through the many obstacles that accompany any project of this size and scope."

Completion of this project – a significant component in revitalization of the city's downtown core – will be celebrated with a day-long community event on Saturday April 17, 2010. The celebration will showcase some of the range of potential uses of the street's amenities and features. Activities will include a Farmers' Market, street vendors, events for kids, and entertainment culminating with an evening street dance. The schedule of events will be announced in the local media and on the City's website.

LOCAL PROTECTION MEASURE

A coalition calling itself Californians to Protect Local Taxpayers and Vital Services is currently collecting signatures to qualify the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act for California's November 2010 statewide ballot. If passed, proponents say this constitutional amendment would prevent the state from diverting, borrowing or taking funds that are currently dedicated to local governments. The measure would also prevent the state from diverting gas tax revenues that voters have dedicated to transportation and transit improvements and services.

Following are the major provisions of the constitutional amendment:

- Revokes the state's ability to borrow local government property tax funds (currently authorized by 2004 Prop 1A).
- Prohibits the state from borrowing Prop. 42 funds (gas tax) which voters have dedicated to transportation and mass transit.
- Prohibits the state from taking or borrowing the Highway User Tax on gasoline (HUTA), which currently fund city, county and state road, highway, transit and other transportation improvements and services.
- Prevents the state from redirecting or diverting locally levied taxes, including parcel taxes, sales taxes, utility user taxes, TOT's and other locally imposed taxes that are currently passed by local governments and/or their voters and dedicated to cities, counties and special districts.
- Prohibits the state from taking, borrowing or redirecting existing funding for public transit, including existing taxes on gas and "spillover" funds dedicated to the Public Transportation Account.
- Adds additional constitutional protections to prevent the state from raiding redevelopment funds or shifting redevelopment funds to other state purposes.

Proponents say this measure is needed because, over the past several years, the state has passed budgets that have diverted or borrowed billions of dollars in local government, transportation and redevelopment funds.

Here in the City of Morgan Hill, the City was forced to loan the State approximately \$675,000 in property

cont on page 62

BMR Units Available for Immediate Purchase!

The City has had a vibrant Below Market (BMR) Program for first-time homebuyers since the late 1970's. As part of the voter approved Residential Development Control System (the City's growth control ordinance), developers typically provide the City new BMR units annually for sale to income qualified buyers. Low and Moderate income homebuyers who have not owned a home within the last 3 years or who may own a home outside the County but do not maintain it as primary residence, may be eligible to participate in the program.

The BMR Program is now accepting applications from eligible households who are ready to buy today!

Note: The Table Below is the maximum eligible income limits for each family size. For families larger than 4 people please visit our website at: www.morganhill.ca.gov

Income Limits		Household Size			
Maximum Incomes	1	2	3	4	
Lower Income	\$59,400	\$67,900	\$76,400	\$84,900	
Median Income	\$73,850	\$84,400	\$94,950	\$105,500	
Moderate Income	\$88,000	\$101,300	\$113,000	\$126,600	

Units Available NOW!

Jasper Park (NEW) Median Income \$361,500
16840 Cory Lane - 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1500sf

This is a new two-story single family detached home that is part of the Redevelopment Agency's Pilot Equity Share BMR Program and allows a buyer to accumulate equity after 5-yr's of homeownership. The Agency provides an additional mortgage assistance loan which allows a median income buyer to purchase the home at \$361,500. The home may be resold at full market value after 5 years of ownership, as long as the Agency's loan is repaid and any equity gain is shared with the Agency at the time of sale. Interested buyers with the required 3% down payment are encouraged to apply. Eligible lower income households may also be qualified for additional financing assistance.

Preservation Park (Resale)* - 4 bedroom, 2 bath, 1,504sf

This is a resale of an existing single family detached home and is being offered to median income buyers at \$311,300. Interested buyers with the required 3% down payment are encouraged to apply. Eligible buyers may also qualify for up to \$50,000 in additional financing from the new City Down Payment Assistance Program.

Diana Estates (Resale)* - 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1,500sf

This is a resale of an existing duet town home and is being offered to median income buyers at \$361,500. Interested buyers with the required 3% down payment are encouraged to apply. Eligible buyers may also qualify for up to \$50,000 in additional financing from the new City Down Payment Assistance Program.

Vialé (Resale) - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1,378sf

This is a resale of an existing single family detached home and is being offered to moderate income buyers at \$450,000. Interested buyers with the required 3% down payment are encouraged to apply. Additional Down Payment Assistance maybe available.

Llagas Creek Estates (Resale)* - 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 1,200sf

This is a resale of an existing duet townhome and is being offered to median income buyers at \$271,315. Interested buyers with the required 3% down payment are encouraged to apply. Eligible buyers may also qualify for up to \$50,000 in additional financing from the new City Down Payment Assistance Program.

*Eligible for City's Down Payment Assistance Program.

Down Payment Solutions for First-time Homebuyers

If you're looking for down payment assistance, you've come to the right place. As a potential first-time home buyer, you know the sacrifices needed to save sufficient money for a down payment on a home. For some, it may seem impossible to even begin to save enough for a down payment without some form of help much less saving money in time to take advantage of today's low mortgage rates.

The City of Morgan Hill has created a Downpayment Assistance Program to help home buyers purchase their first home with a streamlined application process that works with participating lenders.

Key Program Points:

- Funds are available from the Morgan Hill Redevelopment Agency's Affordable Housing Fund
- Eligible households can earn up to 120% of the Area Median Income (AMI); adjusted for household size
- Up to \$50,000 down payment assistance loan available citywide
- Up to \$75,000 available if the home is within Downtown Boundary
- Homebuyers need to have at least 3% of the home sales price in their own funds towards the down payment
- Homebuyer must obtain their own primary financing
- Loans are offered with a low interest rate based on the Local Agency Investment Fund (LAIF) plus .5%
- 30-year loan with no interest and deferred payments for the first 5 years.
- Payments of principal and interest will begin on the 6th year and amortized over the remaining 25 years
- Loan is due and payable upon refinance, sale, transfer, or non-occupancy
- No prepayment penalties.
- Maximum homes sale price of \$729,000
- Can be used for single-family, townhouse or condo purchased within the City limits

Income Limits		Household Size			
Maximum Incomes	1	2	3	4	
Lower Income	\$59,400	\$67,900	\$76,400	\$84,900	
<i>Up to 80% of AMI</i>					
Moderate Income	\$88,000	\$101,300	\$113,000	\$126,600	
<i>>80%-120% of AMI</i>					

For additional information on the Downpayment Assistance Program, call the Housing Services Division at (408) 778-6480 or email housing@morganhill.ca.gov In subject line please type, City DAP Program.

Work with participating lenders to qualify

For additional information on the BMR Program, call the Housing Services Division at (408) 778-6480 or email housing@morganhill.ca.gov In subject line please type, City BMR Program.

CITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS ON THE INTERNET

Your Environmental Programs Division is constantly working to find more ways to serve you and we're diving head-first into the internet! Here is a quick tour of the online resources that we have available for you.

If you visit the City's website at www.morganhill.ca.gov, you will see the blue Environmental Tips box right near the center of the page. Click on the box to go to our green pages. Once there, you will find information on all of our programs and services. Need to know when your recycling day is? What to do with Household Hazardous Waste? How to conserve water? It's all there, along with links to other resources that will help you become more "green".

See the Facebook button to the right of our page? You can now follow the Environmental Programs Division on Facebook! Click on the button and become a fan of our page.

Keep informed about upcoming Environmental events, get "green" tips and interact with other green-minded residents.

Now, go to the top of the page, hold your mouse over "City Services" and click on the "Notify Me" tab. Here, you can

cont. on page 62

City Beautification Day Coming in May



What are you doing on the morning of May 15th from 9am until noon? Why not come out and make a difference? City Beautification Day offers an opportunity for everyone in Morgan Hill to join together to spruce up our town. We have an assortment of projects available from planting to trimming to picking up litter. This is your chance to spend a morning working together with your friends and neighbors to beautify Morgan Hill. We will meet at City Hall, 17555 Peak Avenue, at 9am to receive assignments. Be sure to bring water, gloves, and sunscreen. Afterwards, we'll be having a celebratory BBQ Lunch at City Hall prepared by the Morgan Hill Kiwanis.

For more information or to pre-register, call 778-6480 or email environ@morganhill.ca.gov

CARBON DIET CLUB

Lose 5,000 Pounds of Greenhouse Gas Emissions By Joining a Carbon Diet Club Today!

It's Free!

In just three meetings, find out how you can create a more sustainable future in Morgan Hill. You will receive numerous tools, such as a workbook to track your progress, reusable shopping bags, shower timers, a free home energy analysis (valued at \$300) and much more. A new Club starts every month. See the schedule below for upcoming Carbon Diet Clubs.

As of January 2010, the program has helped residents lose over 620,966 pounds of greenhouse gas emissions through water, resource, and energy conservation.

We proudly recognize the following Carbon Diet Club Superstars:

The Chamber of Commerce's Environmental Affairs Committee completed their Club in November 2009 and the six participants reduced their carbon emissions by 36,600 pounds!

The first Carbon Diet Club for the Jackson Oaks neighborhood was held in late October. Nine neighbors joined forces over a two week period to reduce 54,845 pounds of their annual greenhouse gas emissions, which is equivalent to reducing 109,690 kW hours!

The Morgan Hill City Council completed their Club in August and using the simple tips that they learned, reduced their carbon emissions by 48,831 pounds!

cont. on page 60



You can create a sustainable, healthy and beautiful garden using Bay-Friendly practices. Learn more at the Bay-Friendly Gardening Basics workshop being held on Saturday, May 15th from 10am-1pm at the Centennial Recreation Center located at 171 West Edmundson Avenue.

This workshop will provide an overview of design and maintenance considerations and practices that will help you make

smart choices at the nursery. All participants will receive the Bay-Friendly Gardening Guide. Please call 918-4640 or visit www.reducewaste.org to register for the workshop. A \$20 fee will be collected at registration.

City Reservoirs

The Greening Alternative

Generally, you wouldn't give a second glance to a water reservoir nestled on the side of hill; it's just there. But that reservoir is helping to fight climate change as much as the trees that surround it. How does a large mass of metal help reduce the City's carbon footprint every day?

It's simple, really. Next time you are strolling downtown or driving west on Dunne, take a look at the Nob Hill reservoir located in the middle of town. You are looking at two million gallons of water. With the City's average daily consumption of 200 gallons per person per day, this tank supplies water to 10,000 residents. While that's only a quarter of the City's population, there is nothing to worry about because there are five other tanks to supply all citizens and businesses with water. It is all this storage that is the key to our greenness. The secret is found in the acronym "TOU", which means Time of Use.

Time of Use is a term used by power supply companies, like PG&E, and references the time of day power is used. Since PG&E is required to produce power when it is needed to millions of customers, different rates are charged to customers throughout the day depending on when they use energy. Turns out, power is needed most during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, leading to higher costs for the consumer than in the evening hours. Why the high cost during the day? Think about those hot August days at 3 p.m. when air conditioners are running full blast and everyone is at work; PG&E has to buy power from out of state to ensure there is enough power

for all customers. Logically, you'd think that power companies would run more power generators during peak demand periods and fewer generators at night when the demand drops. Unfortunately, power generating technology isn't there yet and switching power production facilities on and off takes time. Consequently, power generating equipment must run even in the late night hours and the potential power is lost forever.

It is during these peak demand hours during the day when our reservoirs turn their greenest. During the day they supply water to citizens and businesses using just gravity, allowing us to shut down high power demand water wells and booster pumps from 9:00AM to 6:00 PM and run them during the off peak demand periods at night. This saves energy by reducing energy demand during peak hours, which reduces the pressure to buy power from outside PG&E territory. The water wells and booster consume late-night power that would otherwise be lost. The cost of this power is cheaper as well; hence the economic power of our water storage reservoirs. They pay for themselves many times over the course of their service life.



So the next time you look up at one of these green reservoirs, remember that no matter what color appears on its shell, it truly is a shade of green.

CARBON DIET CLUB

cont. from page 59

Advent Lutheran Church members completed their Club in June with a total greenhouse gas emission reduction of 102,311 pounds!

The Morgan Hill and Gilroy Philanthropic Educational Organization worked together to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions by 47,000 pounds!

Employees from BookSmart in Morgan Hill were able to reduce 10,000 pounds of their personal carbon emissions!

The Morgan Hill Planning Commission reduced their emissions by 65,300 pounds!

You must preregister. Bring your family members and work together to reduce your household emissions, but only one sign-up per household, please. Free childcare available for CRC members; \$4 for non-members.

Upcoming Carbon Diet Clubs:

Date	Time
4/6-4/20 Tues	6:30-7:30pm
4/8-4/22 Thurs	6:30-7:30pm
4/10-4/24 Sat	10-11am
5/8-5/22 Sat	10-11am
5/11-5/25 Tues.	6:30-7:30pm
5/13-5/27 Thurs	6:30-7:30pm
6/8-6/29* Tues	6:30-7:30pm
6/12-6/26 Sat	10-11am
7/13-8/3* Tues	6:30-7:30pm
7/17-7/31 Sat	10-11am
8/10-8/31*Tues	6:30-7:30pm
8/14-8/28 Sat	10-11am

*No class 6/15, 7/20, 8/17

**Location: Centennial Recreation Center,
171 West Edmundson Ave. Activity Room #2 • 408-782-2128.**

Join the Morgan Hill Police Explorer Post

Are you between the ages of 14-21 and interested in law enforcement? Have you considered a career as a police officer or in the criminal justice field? If so, the Morgan Hill Police Explorer Post 811 would help you better understand the field a step ahead of the crowd with a hands on experience.



The explorer program aims at providing youth an opportunity to build self-confidence and to gain experience in the law enforcement field. The program encourages success at school and work, strengthening physical and mental fitness, positive social interaction, instilling a desire to help others and acquiring leadership skills to fulfill one's responsibilities in society.

In September, the Morgan Hill Explorers participated in the 10th annual Central Coast Explorer competition in Paso Robles, California. Our post placed 4th overall out of 47 agencies, coming ahead of several large agencies! Additionally, the post placed first in shooting skills, second in oral boards, third in written exams and third in crisis negotiations! The trophies the post received are well deserved and reflect their hard work and dedication.

As a member of the Morgan Hill Police Explorer program, you will volunteer time in the community by assisting at City events such as the Mushroom Mardi Gras, Taste of Morgan Hill and the 4th of July. An obligation of 3 hours of community service per month, monthly meetings and police ride-alongs are required along with maintaining a respectable grade point average. As a member of the explorer program, you will receive a great experience with the police department and the community.

Anyone interested in joining the program and meets age qualifications is encouraged to contact the Morgan Hill Police Department for more information about joining. You can pick up an application at the Police Department located at 16200 Vineyard Boulevard or by contacting Michelle Barte at (408) 776-7317 or michelle.barte@morganhill.ca.gov.



Morgan Hill Strengthens its Community Emergency Response Team

By Jennifer Ponce, Morgan Hill's Office of Emergency Services

In the fall of 2009 the Morgan Hill CERT program had over 40 students graduate. The graduation took place on November 3rd at Morgan Hill's Community and Cultural Center. The Chief of Police, Bruce Cumming, and Councilmember Larry Carr were on hand to congratulate the latest group of Disaster Service Workers for the City of Morgan Hill. That brings the total to well over 200 citizens trained in Disaster Preparedness!

Morgan Hill follows the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) certified course on basic preparedness. It educates those of us living in Morgan Hill and surrounding areas about preparedness for hazards such as earthquakes, wildfires, floods, and other emergencies and disasters that may impact our community. It provides training in basic emergency response skills such as fire safety, light search and rescue, emergency medical operations, community response team organization, and disaster psychology.

Although Morgan Hill's CERT program falls under the City's Office of Emergency Services (OES), most of the hard work is done by the volunteers. The most recent accomplishment was the development of an indoor staging area where CERT can report to following a large earthquake or other large scale emergency. The staging area houses CERT's emergency response trailer, emergency response equipment, and shelter supplies. In a disaster the staging area will receive its direction from the City's Emergency Operations Center.

During the year 2009, CERT responded to several "activation" requests. The most visible activation was the communication outage on April 9, 2009, where the 9-11 system was done. CERT's tasks varied from notifying city personnel to posting in the community with ham radio operators to assist the public with emergency needs. Other responses include assisting during floods with sandbagging stations and assisting with traffic control during the 4th of July festivities, and much more.

Whether you are interested in strengthening your disaster preparedness and response skills for your family's needs or would like to assist the city in times of emergencies, CERT is the place for you!

There is no requirement of physical fitness. Youth aged 16 and up are permitted to attend. This class is also open to residents of San Martin, Gilroy, and surrounding areas.

There is no fee to attend these training classes. CERT strives to run two to three classes per year.

If you are interested in learning more about Morgan Hill CERT please go to www.mhcert.com.

The City is pleased to partner with the Mount Madonna YMCA, work2future, Advent Group, the Morgan Hill Home Group of Narcotics Anonymous, and The American Red Cross, Silicon Valley Chapter on the Friendly Inn.

The Mt. Madonna YMCA offices will house the organization's Executive Director, Administrative Manager, Program Directors and other administrative functions. The community will be able to register for programs and services that are offered by the YMCA.

Work2future represents an integrated workforce network of more than (20) agencies that serves youth (16+) and adults and will provide job counseling and placement assistance, as well as related support services. In addition, they will provide "reception" support to the Center's tenants and clients.

Advent Group, the only State certified provider of residential adolescent addiction recovery services in Santa Clara County and the exclusive provider of teen recovery group homes to the County, will conduct outpatient adolescent drug and alcohol treatment counseling services at the Center to help addicted youth learn the tools to maintaining their recovery and a drug/alcohol free lifestyle.

Founded in Southern California in 1953, **Narcotics Anonymous** adopted the 12-Step program of Alcoholics Anonymous and broadened their scope to cover the problems of addiction. The Morgan Hill Home Group of Narcotics Anonymous will hold their daily group meetings at the Center. These meetings are open to all.

The American Red Cross, Silicon Valley Chapter's use of the Friendly Inn will include an office where volunteers will meet with residents affected by local disasters, provide on-site training in disaster readiness, and health and safety courses such as CPR/First Aid.

An Open House was held on February 23rd to introduce the new multi tenant non-profit Center and its non-profit tenants to the community. The Open House festivities included a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony attended by the City Council, the introduction of the tenant organizations and the principal partners in the project, and tours of the Center that highlighted the past and present of the Friendly Inn, as well as the "Green" features of the facility.

Non-profit organizations that meet the eligibility criteria of providing an identifiable, social service, community need and are interested in tenancy at the Friendly Inn are encouraged to call Karen Lengsfeld, Community Services Coordinator, at (408) 782-2128 for more information.

CITY ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS ON THE INTERNET

cont. from page 59

subscribe to many helpful City publications, including the monthly Environmental Programs newsletter, "The Civic Green". "The Civic Green" is dedicated to environmental issues and events that we think you will find both fun and informative. Archives of past issues are available online – just click the "Civic Green" link on our page or go to www.morganhill.ca.gov/civicgreen

Have you been hearing about the Morgan Hill Carbon Diet Club? Go to www.carbondietclub.com and learn what you can do to reduce your impact on climate change, save money on your energy bills and help sustain future generations. We've also started a Facebook page for the Carbon Diet Club. Click on the Facebook button to the right of the page to become a fan. If you need any help or just want more information, you can contact us at environ@morganhill.ca.gov or 778-6480.

cont. from page 57

taxes and also forfeit over \$11 million in Redevelopment Agency (RDA) Funds which are used for capital improvement investments in the community. The effect of this raid is the elimination and/or delay of several projects including many that were earmarked for the revitalization of blighted areas.

During its budget process, the State also threatened to take approximately \$650,000 in motor vehicle fuel tax in fiscal year 2009-2010 - a proposal that eventually failed. These revenues are the primary funding mechanism for the City's street maintenance program. Loss of these funds would have resulted in either severe reductions in street maintenance operations or required reductions in other general fund areas to offset the revenue loss.

Proponents have until mid-April to collect 694,354 valid signatures to qualify for the November 2010 ballot. Coalition representatives say they will collect more than 1.1 million signatures to ensure qualification.

Please visit www.savelocalservices.com for more information.



Come visit our new

Third Street Promenade!

Shop locally in downtown Morgan Hill and support your community

- Ragoots
- Realty World
- Deziign Salon
- Morgan Hill Times
- Main Street Bagels
- Lacerda Chiropractic
- Safari Salon
- Unique Boutique
- Poppy's Market & Bistro
- Jesus Mexican Restaurant
- United Academy of Martial Arts

www.morganhillrda.ca.gov